82MW aggregate capacity of solar photovoltaic systems, have so far been installed in the country. In the area of wind energy, the systems include wind mills for water pumping and decentralized power applications and wind turbines for grid power generation. An aggregate wind power capacity of 4225 MW has so far been installed in the country.

(b) Loans amounting to about Rs. 166 crore have been provided for solar energy devices and systems during the last three years by Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and the participating banks. Furthermore, term loans amounting to about Rs. 485 crore have been provided by IREDA for setting up commercial wind power projects during the last three years. Loans are also being extended by other Financial Institutions and various banks for wind power projects.

Wind Power Association

844. SHRI C. PERUMAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Wind Power Association has demanded that utilities buy at least 25 per cent. of power produced from renewable sources;

(b) if so, whether any policy has been formulated in the matter;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) The Indian Wind Power Association has written to the Ministry of Power in which one of the proposals is that the utilities should buy at least a minimum of 25% from Renewable Energy for their pool.

(b) to (d) One of the functions of the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions as laid down under section 86 of the Electricity Act, 2003 is to promote cogeneration and generation of electricity from renewable sources of energy and, *inter-alia*, also specify, for purchase of electricity from such sources, a percentage of the total consumption of electricity in the area of a distribution licence.

New power plants in Delhi

845. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to start some new power plants especially for supplying electricity in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following projects have been envisaged under the State Sector subject to availability of gas:—

(i) Pragati (350 MW).

(ii) Bawana (1000 MW).

(iii) Replacement of units of IP Station as the existing units of the Station have outlived their life.

Shortage of coal and gas

846. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage of coal and gas has been responsible for losses in power generation at many thermal power plants in the country in the recent months;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to amend the situation; and

(c) the total number of thermal plants operating below capacity as per the latest information?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (c) No coal based thermal power plant in the country is reported to be generating power below capacity because of shortage of coal in the recent months (September and October, 2005).

However, the number of the gas based power plants in the country reporting operation below capacity due to shotate of gas and the resultant generation loss during the recent months is as under:—

Months	Number	Generation loss
September 2005	21	625.05 MUs
October 2005	19	548.17 MUs